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H.B. No. 1696

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to adding a designation on a person's driver's license or commercial driver's license indicating that the person is licensed to carry a handgun.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 507.001(b), Business & Commerce Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) This section does not affect:

(1) the requirement to display a handgun license under Section 411.205, Government Code[, ~~that a person subject to that section present a driver's license or identification certificate in addition to a concealed handgun license~~]; or

(2) the types of identification required under federal law to access airport premises or pass through airport security.

SECTION 2. Subchapter H, Chapter 411, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 411.1795 to read as follows:

Sec. 411.1795. DESIGNATION ON DRIVER'S LICENSE OR COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSE. The department shall adopt rules allowing an applicant for an original, duplicate, modified, or renewed license under this subchapter, in addition to being issued an original, duplicate, modified, or renewed license, to elect to include on the person's driver's license or commercial driver's license a designation indicating that the person is licensed under this subchapter. The rules must include procedures to ensure that a

person who makes an election under this section:

(1) receives a designation on the person's driver's license or commercial driver's license only if the person meets the requirements for issuance of the original, duplicate, modified, or renewed handgun license; and

(2) maintains the designation only during the period for which the person is licensed to carry a handgun under this subchapter.

SECTION 3. Section [411.205](#), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 411.205. REQUIREMENT TO DISPLAY LICENSE. If a license holder is carrying a handgun on or about the license holder's person when a magistrate or a peace officer demands that the license holder display identification, the license holder shall display:

(1) either of the following:

(A) the license holder's driver's license or commercial driver's license that includes a handgun license designation under Section 521.128 or [522.030](#), Transportation Code; or

(B) both the license holder's driver's license, commercial driver's license, or personal identification certificate issued by the department and the license holder's handgun license; and

(2) if the license holder's handgun license bears a protective order designation, a copy of the applicable court order under which the license holder is protected.

SECTION 4. Subchapter [F](#), Chapter [521](#), Transportation Code,

1 is amended by adding Section 521.128 to read as follows:

2       Sec. 521.128. HANDGUN LICENSE DESIGNATION. The department  
3 shall include on each driver's license issued to a person licensed  
4 to carry a handgun under Subchapter H, Chapter 411, Government  
5 Code, who makes an election under Section 411.1795, Government  
6 Code, a designation that shows the person is licensed under that  
7 subchapter. The designation must include the person's handgun  
8 license number and a statement of the period for which the handgun  
9 license is effective.

10       SECTION 5. Section 522.030, Transportation Code, is amended  
11 by adding Subsection (e) to read as follows:

12       (e) The department shall include on each commercial  
13 driver's license issued to a person licensed to carry a handgun  
14 under Subchapter H, Chapter 411, Government Code, who makes an  
15 election under Section 411.1795, Government Code, a designation  
16 that shows the person is licensed under that subchapter. The  
17 designation must include the person's handgun license number and a  
18 statement of the period for which the handgun license is effective.

19       SECTION 6. Not later than December 1, 2025, the Department  
20 of Public Safety shall adopt the rules required by Section  
21 411.1795, Government Code, as added by this Act.

22       SECTION 7. (a) Section 411.1795, Government Code, as added  
23 by this Act, applies only to an applicant for an original,  
24 duplicate, modified, or renewed license to carry a handgun under  
25 Subchapter H, Chapter 411, Government Code, as amended by this Act,  
26 who submits the application on or after January 1, 2026.

27       (b) The changes in law made by this Act to Chapters 521 and

H.B. No. 1696

1 522, Transportation Code, apply only to a driver's license or  
2 commercial driver's license issued or renewed under Chapter 521 or  
3 522, Transportation Code, on or after January 1, 2026.

4 SECTION 8. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.